

NEWS RELEASE

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Corps reducing releases at Tuttle Creek Lake

MANHATTAN, Kan.— The Kansas City District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is reducing releases from Tuttle Creek Lake due to high water levels and flooding conditions on the Missouri River.

The reduction in release will be stepped down beginning Tuesday, June 7, and will go to a minimum release of 200 cubic feet per second (cfs) by Friday, June 10, with the lake level forecast to be at about 1,083.5, or 8.5 feet, above normal. This minimum release is expected to continue into August. Without additional rain, the lake is still expected to rise a foot every 10-14 days, resulting in lake levels at least 15 feet above the normal summer lake level by mid August, approaching elevation 1,090.0.

Any rain that falls in the lake's drainage basin above the dam during the minimum release period will increase the rate of rise of the lake and the lake level during this period. Daily lake information and forecasts can be seen at www.nwk.usace.army.mil/watermanagement/.

The reduction in release from Tuttle Creek Lake is due to flooding conditions on the Missouri River. Record releases from the Missouri River main stem reservoirs are resulting in flooding along the Missouri River from these unprecedented flows. Record flows and flooding are the result of abovenormal snowpack and extraordinary rain events during the last several weeks in Montana, Wyoming and the western Dakotas. Significant flooding in cities, towns and agricultural land is occurring along the Missouri River.

Flows from five of the six main stem dams on the Missouri River are expected to reach a record 150,000 cfs release rate no later than mid-June at most of these lakes. The previous record releases at these lakes took place in 1975 and 1997. Flooded areas resulting from these releases are expected to be inundated for several months.

Protecting lives is our number one priority. Without the proper operation of the Missouri River main stem system, more lives and property will be at risk. The public can email questions concerning the record flooding on the Missouri River to the Joint Information Center at MRJIC@usace.army.mil or call (877) 214-9110.

For additional information, please contact the Kansas City District Public Affairs Office at (816) 389-3486.

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